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OIT #1025-88

26 OCT 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Research and Information Systems Division
Office of Medical Services

FROM: Edward J. Maloney
Director of Information Technology

SUBJECT: Urgent Need for COMTEN Ports at Outbuildings

REFERENCE: AIM Memo from C/RISD/OMS to C/NSG/OIT, dtd 5 Oct 88,
Same Subject

1. We have received your request for four COMTEN lines. Your three PCs will require SNA connectivity which will be available after 1 December.

2. The bisynchronous connection cannot be satisfied until the March 1989 timeframe, since no additional ports are available until then.

3. We will meet with [redacted] to determine the priority of your request and schedule support for you as soon as feasible. The OIT point of contact is [redacted] who can be reached at [redacted]

Edward J. Maloney

RPS/OIT, [redacted]

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

- 1 - RPS/OIT
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5 October 1988

New Request

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Chief, Network Systems Group, OIT

FROM:

Chief, Research and Information Systems Division
Office of Medical Services

SUBJECT:

Urgent Need for Comten Ports at Outbuildings

1. The Psychological Testing Program administered by OMS is essential to the Agency's recruitment, applicant processing and employee evaluation activities. Data conversion support for this major, high-visibility program, and for Agency-wide surveys such as the Employee Satisfaction Survey, as well as for other projects requiring extensive data-entry activity (e.g., Project Screen for OC) is provided by Scantron optical mark readers and machine-readable forms. A year ago OMS recognized the need for faster and more sophisticated scanning equipment, and purchased four Scantron 9000 systems which are equipped with tempested IBM-compatible personal computers. Along with this, we requested software development from OIT under MEDANE for PC-based validation, editing and scoring. The software is scheduled to be delivered by the end of the current calendar year.

2. Three of the four System 9000s will be located in outbuildings and will therefore be dependent on Comten connectivity. To achieve full functionality with the upgraded system and still maintain our existing capability during acceptance testing and parallel operation, OMS requires a total of four additional lines for [REDACTED] Building and Chamber of Commerce Building: three to support PCs serving as interactive terminals (two at [REDACTED] and one at C of C) and one bisynchronous line for a new Xerox 2700 laser printer being installed in [REDACTED] OMS Applicant Processing facility. A dedicated printer is urgently needed at the [REDACTED] site for expeditious turn-around during validation and editing, and to ensure medical confidentiality of the reports.

3. I cannot overstate the urgency of this request or the seriousness of the consequences to OMS and to critical Agency programs if we are without outbuilding connectivity to VM at the time the new systems are ready for IOC. We are aware of the severe scarcity of Comten lines. We are all too frequently reminded of the criticality and the high priority of our chartered responsibilities. We request allocation of the stated Comten lines prior to year's end.

4. Please contact [REDACTED] if there are any questions concerning our need for these crucial lines or the implementation of OMS's automation upgrade plan.

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